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preliminary list*

CONSIDERATION OF EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION, SECURITY AND SAFETY OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Letter dated 8 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement on the assassination of a Turkish diplomat in Athens (see annex). I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 139 and 146 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Statement made by the Government of Turkey

On the morning of 4 July 1994, around 9 a.m., the Counsellor of the Turkish Embassy in Athens, Ömer Haluk Sipahioğlu, was assassinated in front of his residence by a terrorist immediately after he had got into his car to go to the Embassy.

This cruel murder of a Turkish diplomat was not the first attempt against the lives of Turkish diplomats in Greece.

Indeed, on 31 July 1980, Mr. Galip Özmen, the Administrative Attaché of the Turkish Embassy in Athens, and his daughter were assassinated; on 7 September 1991, Mr. Çetin Görgü, Deputy Press Attaché of the Turkish Embassy in Athens, was also murdered. On 16 July 1991, the Chargé d'affaires of the Turkish Embassy in Athens, Mr. Deniz Bölükbaşi, and Administrative Attaché Ms. Nilgün Keçeli were severely wounded in a bomb attack against the official vehicle of the Turkish Embassy.

The Government of Turkey calls upon all States to adopt all necessary measures to protect the safety and security of the diplomatic and consular missions in their territories and further appeals to them to comply with their obligations under the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents and other relevant international instruments. The Government of Turkey urges all States to take the necessary measures aimed at preventing all acts of terrorism and activities of terrorist groups within their territories, and expresses its hope that the perpetrators of these heinous crimes will be brought to justice by the Greek authorities.